

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 02726 031354Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 TRSE-00 EB-08 COME-00 AGRE-00 OMB-01
STR-07 AID-05 XMB-02 OPIC-03 /115 W
-----074249 031358Z /44

P R 031230Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8967
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 2726

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT PDEV RH ZA
SUBJ: KAPWEPWE AND THE RHODESIAN QUESTION

REF: LUSAKA 2706

1. SUMMARY: SIMON KAPWEPWE'S PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY (REFTEL)
HAS LIKELY CAUSED CONCERN TO JOSHUA NKOMO AND HIS ZAPU ORGANIZA-
TION. IN HIS PREPARED REMARKS AND IN ANSWERS TO REPORTERS'
QUESTIONS, KAPWEPWE MADE IT CLEAR THAT HE WOULD BRING ABOUT FAR-
REACHING CHANGES IN ZAMBIA'S POLICY REGARDING RHODESIA IF HE IS
ELECTED PRESIDENT. THESE CHANGES WOULD HAVE A NEGATIVE IMPACT
ON ZAPU'S NOW STRONG POSITION IN ZAMBIA. KAPWEPWE'S POLICY
WOULD THREATEN NKOMO'S "SECURE" REAR BASE IN THE LIBERATION
STRUGGLE AND UNDERCUT HIS MAJOR SOURCE OF POLITICAL SUPPORT
AMONG THE FRONTLINE STATES. END SUMMARY.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LUSAKA 02726 031354Z

2. IN HIS PLATFORM AS DESCRIBED AUGUST 1, KAPWEPWE MADE A
NUMBER OF NOT-VERY-VEILED REFERENCES TO ZAMBIA'S CURRENT POLICY
REGARDING THE RHODESIAN QUESTION. ECHOING SENTIMENTS APPARENTLY
TO BE FOUND AMONG A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF ZAMBIANS, THE
CANDIDATE PLEDGED TO CONCENTRATE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT RATHER
THAN ON INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ISSUES, AND TO PUT NATIONAL SELF-
INTEREST AT THE TOP WHEN DETERMINING THE NATION'S FOREIGN POLICY.

SUCH REMARKS ADDRESS THE CONCERN OF MANY THAT THE GOVERNMENT (AND SPECIFICALLY THE PRESIDENT) HAS BEEN SPENDING TOO MUCH TIME DEALING WITH THE LIBERATION OF RHODESIA AND HAS BEEN PUTTING THE CAUSE OF ZIMBABWE AHEAD OF THE BEST INTERESTS OF ZAMBIA.

3. IN HIS PREPARED STATEMENT, KAPWEPWE ALSO SAID THAT ZAMBIA'S MILITARY FORCE WOULD BE USED ONLY IF "THE PEACE AND HARMONY" OF THE COUNTRY WERE THREATENED. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT ZAMBIAN FORCES WOULD BE EMPLOYED ONLY IN SITUATIONS "WHERE OTHER OAU OR UN FORCES HAVE BEEN COMMITTED. THE CARELESS ADVENTURISM OF THE PAST WILL BE DISCOURAGED AND AVOIDED." KAPWEPWE'S POLICIES, THEREFORE, WOULD APPEAR TO PRECLUDE THE USE OF THE ZAMBIAN MILITARY IN SUPPORTING ZAPU MILITARY OPERATIONS EXCEPT IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHER AFRICAN OR UN STATES. WHILE THE ZAMBIAN ARMED FORCES HAVE NOT BEEN PARTICULARLY ACTIVE IN ZAPU-CONNECTED OPERATIONS, THERE HAS BEEN CRITICISM IN AND OUT OF THE MILITARY ABOUT SACRIFICING ZAMBIAN LIVES IN DEFENSE OR SUPPORT OF ZIMBABWEANS.

4. FROM THE FOREGOING IT IS CLEAR THAT JOSHUA NKOMO CANNOT COUNT ON SIMON KAPWEPWE FOR THE SORT OF SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP HE ENJOYS WITH KAUNDA AND THAT HIS ELECTION WOULD PUT A SEVERE STRAIN ON ZAPU'S POSITION IN ZAMBIA. NKOMO SHOULD HAVE NO DOUBTS THAT IT WILL DEFINITELY BE IN HIS INTEREST TO HAVE KAUNDA REMAIN AS PRESIDENT. NKOMO AND ZAPU WILL BE WATCHING EVENTS CLOSELY, AND ARE PROBABLY CAPABLE OF GETTING ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN ZAMBIA'S

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LUSAKA 02726 031354Z

INTERNAL POLITICS IF THEY BELIEVE THAT KAPWEPWE HAS A CHANCE TO SUCCEED. IF THE THREAT WERE JUDGED TO BE SERIOUS ENOUGH, IT WOULD NOT BE INCONCEIVABLE FOR THAT ACTIVITY TO EXTEND TO ELIMINATION OF THE THREAT. IN THE EVENT OF ZAPU INVOLVEMENT IN ANTI-KAPWEPWE ACTIVITIES, HOWEVER, ZAPU WOULD RUN A REAL RISK OF SERIOUSLY ERODING THE SHALLOW SUPPORT THE ORGANIZATION ENJOYS BELOW THE TOP LEVELS OF THE ZAMBIAN GOVERNMENT.

CLINGERMAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ELECTION CANDIDATES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LUSAKA02726
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780318-0323
Format: TEL
From: LUSAKA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197808103/aaaadigi.tel
Line Count: 102
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b7150358-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 LUSAKA 2706
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1549181
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KAPWEPWE AND THE RHODESIAN QUESTION
TAGS: PINT, PDEV, RH, ZA, (KAPWEPWE, SIMON)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b7150358-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014